

Rules of the 2026 Alexander County Farmers' Market

1. Sellers in the “buy local section” must reside and all produce items must be grown or made in our section of Western North Carolina. Sellers must be the original producers of all items being sold. No buying or reselling of produce or other products is allowed. (Sellers may also be the family members or others directly involved in the production of the crop.)
2. Sellers must submit an application either before or on the day they plan to begin selling at the market. Applications are available to any interested gardener or farmer at the market. Producers may be visited to insure compliance.
3. Local Sellers are automatically members of the Alexander County Farmers' Market Association.
4. Sellers must pay a weekly selling fee of \$5 for one space. The \$5 goes entirely to market promotion. A space is a normal size parking space. (Sellers may pay a one time fee of \$25 for a season pass).
5. The market will operate from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. on Saturdays. The opening and closing days of operation are dependent upon the availability of produce. The Market Manager, local Extension Agent and Board of Directors will decide when the market will open.
6. Products which can be sold include:
 - a. Any vegetable grown by the seller from seeds, sets, or seedlings.
 - b. Any fruits, nuts, or berries grown by the seller from trees, bushes, or vines on the seller's farm.
 - c. Any plant grown by the seller from seed, seedling, transplant, rooted cutting, bulbs, etc.
 - d. Honey produced by the seller's bees.
 - e. Preserves, pickles, relishes, jams, and jellies made by the seller. No low acid canned foods such as green beans, corn, peas, carrots, or canned tomato products, etc. may be sold by order of the Health Department.
 - f. Cut or dried flowers and herbs grown by the seller.
 - g. Homemade crafts.
 - h. Homemade baked goods (with proper paperwork).
7. All foods sold must meet local county and NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Environmental Health Division sanitation regulations. Currently there are fines applicable by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Food and Drug Administration set at \$50.00 per item for anyone selling items that do not abide by these guidelines. The Department of Agriculture may make unannounced checks for food safety.

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8. No fresh or preserved meat or fish may be sold. Only frozen meat from a certified meat handler will be accepted, with a copy of the seller's license to be included with their

application.

9. No animals may be sold or given away at the market.
10. Anyone that sells more than 30 dozen eggs per week must grade the eggs and label cartons with the grade. Eggs are graded based on federal quality standards.
11. Prices must be posted for all items sold.
12. Each seller is responsible for cleaning up the area around his/her vehicle.
13. Sellers should not move their vehicles in or out of the market during times when such movement would pose a danger to people in the shopping area.
14. The market is run by the Market Manager with the assistance of the local Cooperative Extension Agent.